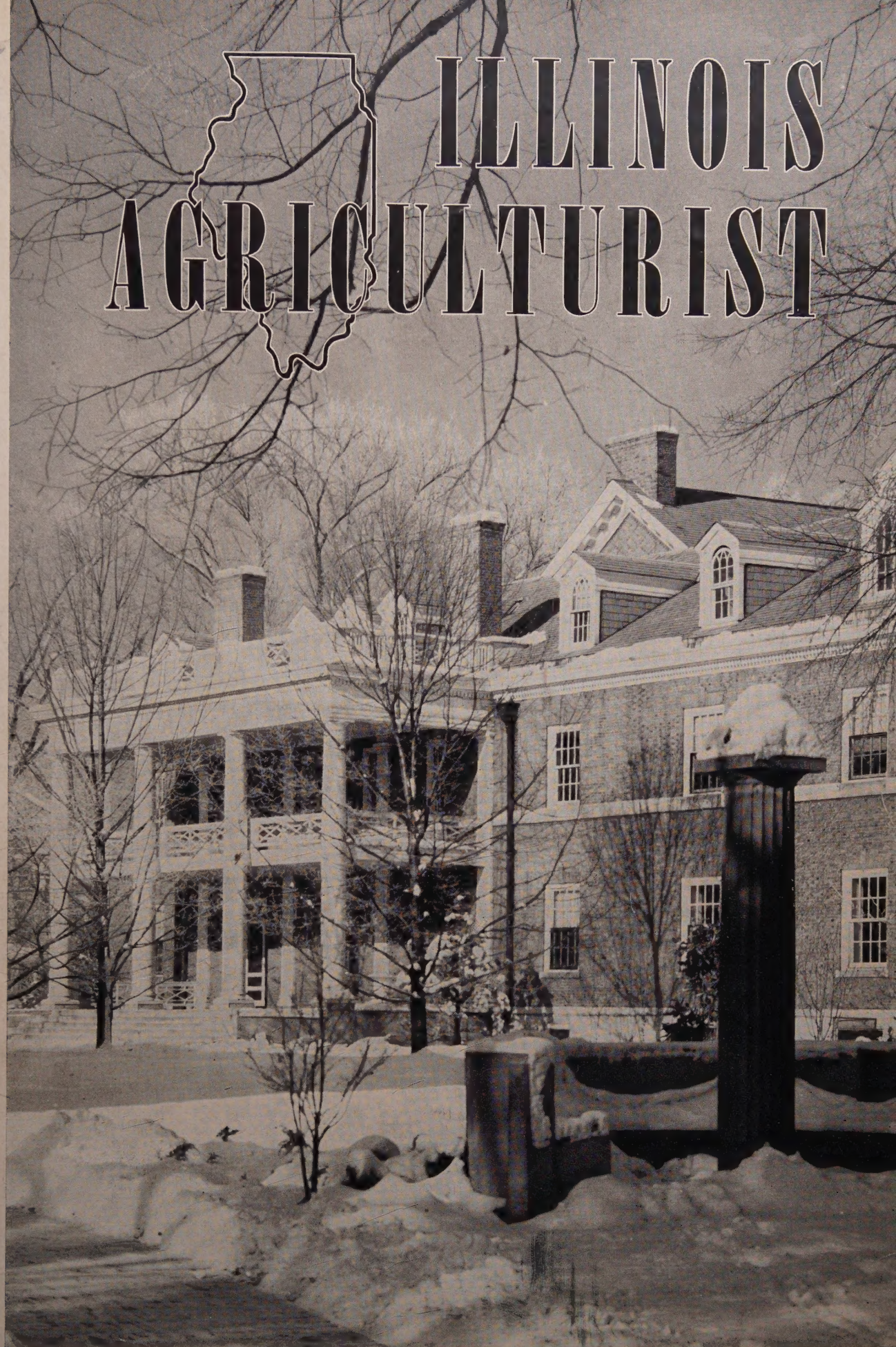


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# ILLINOIS AGRICULTURIST



Fifty-First Year

DECEMBER, 1946

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# *Campus to* GENERAL ELECTRIC

## JET DESIGNER

### *The Story of* **ALAN HOWARD**



**I**N CHARGE of a group of G-E gas-turbine engineers and technicians, Alan Howard has directed the design and development of two General Electric engines that are today powering some of our fastest planes.

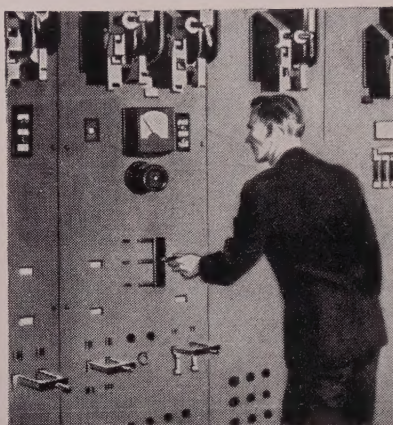
One, the T-G 100, or Propjet, is the first propeller-drive gas turbine in the world. Giving jet thrust in addition to spinning a propeller, the Propjet joins with a pure jet "booster" engine in the Consolidated XP-81 to provide the small, sleek fighter with nearly as much power as a Superfortress!

Alan's second design, the T-G 180, is a pure jet engine, a departure from earlier jets in that it is designed on "axial flow" principles which make possible a super-streamlined torpedo shape. It is the power plant for the Republic XP-84 Thunderjet.

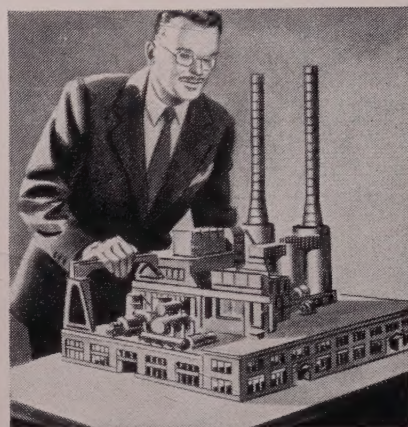
Gas-turbine engineering is, of course, a highly specialized field. Alan, however, is thankful today not so much for any special knowledge he learned in college, but for the solid understanding of engineering fundamentals which he gained as he worked for his B.S. degree at Purdue. This understanding enabled him, on coming on "Test" with G.E., to switch from electrical to mechanical engineering and to work in such diversified fields as television, mercury boilers, steam-electric locomotives and steam turbines.

When, in 1941, Alan Howard undertook the design of Propjet and axial-flow engines, his sound training in basic engineering principles, followed by his years of practical experience with G.E., fitted him well for success.

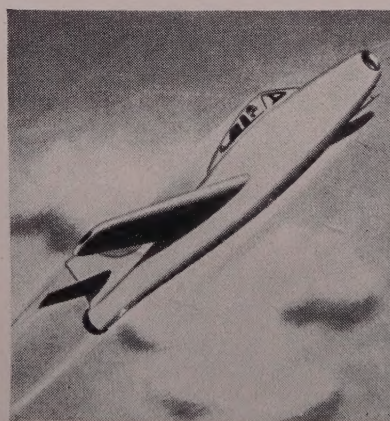
Next to schools and the U.S. Government, General Electric employs more college engineering graduates than any other organization.



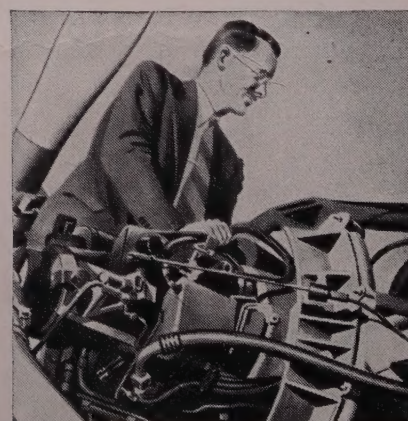
At Purdue University, Alan majored in electrical engineering. His thesis outlined a method of photographing arcs.



With G.E., one of his early jobs was on mercury boilers. Model shown here served as guide for construction of full-size plant.



Assigned to work on gas turbines, Alan designed an improved "axial-flow" jet engine, giving planes like the XP-84 Thunderjet great power, speed and long range.



Flight engineers predict a bright future for his Propjet engine, which gives planes both propeller-drive and jet thrust. It may power big commercial airliners tomorrow.

# GENERAL ELECTRIC



# THE ILLINOIS AGRICULTURIST

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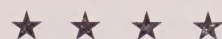
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# Agriculture Tops Italian Vocations

*As told by R. R. Snapp, professor of beef cattle husbandry,  
who was in Italy recently*

By Charles Nicholson

Agriculture in the densely populated country of Italy is probably the most self-supporting industry of the country. At present, commerce and manufacturing are almost at a standstill due to war damage suffered by factories and transportation facilities. As a result there are many jobless people who spend their time loafing about the streets of the cities. Unemployment existed in Italy before the war, but it is now considerably worse.

Agriculture offers by far the best means of livelihood; thus, the rural population is much better off than city inhabitants. The farmers are by far the best fed people of the nation and since agricultural prices are high due to the extreme scarcity of food, they are in a much better financial position than the average city dweller.

Farming methods in Italy often appear rather primitive until we understand why they do things the way they do. Intelligent and resourceful, the Italian farmer has a sound reason for every one of his methods and practices. It might be said that while here in the United States the farmer deals in sections of land, in Italy he deals in hectares or even square meters. This, of course, is due to the low amount of tillable soil and the dense population of the farming areas.

## Available Soil in Production

A patch of wheat perhaps a hundred feet square growing beside the highway or railroad tracks is not an uncommon thing in Italy. Every little nook and corner of tillable soil is in production. It has been said in this connection, that the land that we in America have abandoned as worthless could easily feed the entire population if tilled by the Italian farmer. The Italian farmers must and do make the most out of everything.

The fact that Italian agriculture is still of a primitive nature is easily explained considering the aforementioned circumstances. The surplus of manpower and the small size of their fields are essentially the reasons for the many non-mechanical procedures. The most widely used implements are probably the single bottom, oxdrawn plow, the hoe, and the hand sickle. In general, the main source of power is the ox which is bred purposely for that capacity. The ox is one of, if not the most valuable farm animal because it can be used both as a source of power and as a source of meat. Meat is very scarce and therefore very expensive, providing



Scene of hemp harvest in farmyard in Emilia; near Bologna, Italy

an excellent market for the farmer's old and worn-out beasts of burden. On many small farms the cow is used as a source of milk which is another extremely scarce item in the Italian food ration.

The seeding, cultivating, and harvesting of crops is done to a very large extent by hand. Small patches of wheat, oats, sugar beets, and potatoes are seed-

ed and weeded by hand. Seeds are selected with the utmost care and are sown very heavily to insure a good stand. This is practical due to such limited acreages. The rainfall of Italy is often insufficient under normal conditions for production of farm crops. Therefore irrigation is necessary and requires much effort due to the fact that  
(Continued on Page 16)

## DEAN RUSK PORTRAIT PRESENTED TO THE SADDLE SIRLOIN CLUB

By Royce Hinton

The portrait of H. P. Rusk, dean of the University of Illinois college of agriculture, was presented to the Saddle and Sirloin club during the annual banquet of the American Society of Animal Production held December 1, 1946, in Chicago.

The Saddle and Sirloin club is a famous stockmen's club located in the Stockyards inn at the Chicago Union stockyards. Organized in 1903, the club began as an institution for the development and perpetuation of more efficient livestock production. Since its beginning, the club has developed into an organization of distinction and has a membership that includes many outstanding livestock breeders.

Among the club's activities are the Gold Medal essay contest for junior livestockmen and the tradition of honoring

the men of the livestock field who have attained distinction through their endeavors and progressive contributions to the development of improved livestock production, marketing, and processing. The men to be honored are selected by the club or by other livestock organizations and the portraits of these men are hung on the walls of the club's spacious dining and banquet hall. This display of great breeders, packers, commission men, and educators of yesterday and today is usually referred to as the livestockmen's "hall of fame."

## Confers Honor on Rusk

Among those organizations who honor their members in this way is the American Society of Animal Production of which Dean Rusk is a past president. This aggregation includes all those who are interested in any phase of science related to animals or who are engaged  
(Continued on Page 18)



# Landscaping Adds Beauty and Convenience

By Don Duvick '49

Do you use your front porch for shaking out rugs, and welcome company through the back entry? Do you have to lead visitors through two feet of mud to show them your prize Herefords? Do you, as you wash dishes, look out the window to an inspiring view of the rear of the hog-shed?

You may not suffer from any of these inconveniences, but if you do—and we'll wager that a great many farmers have at least one problem like this—then you have a problem in landscaping to be solved, says H. W. Gilbert, assistant professor of landscape gardening extension.

Many farmsteads today are in a rather awkward transition period. They were

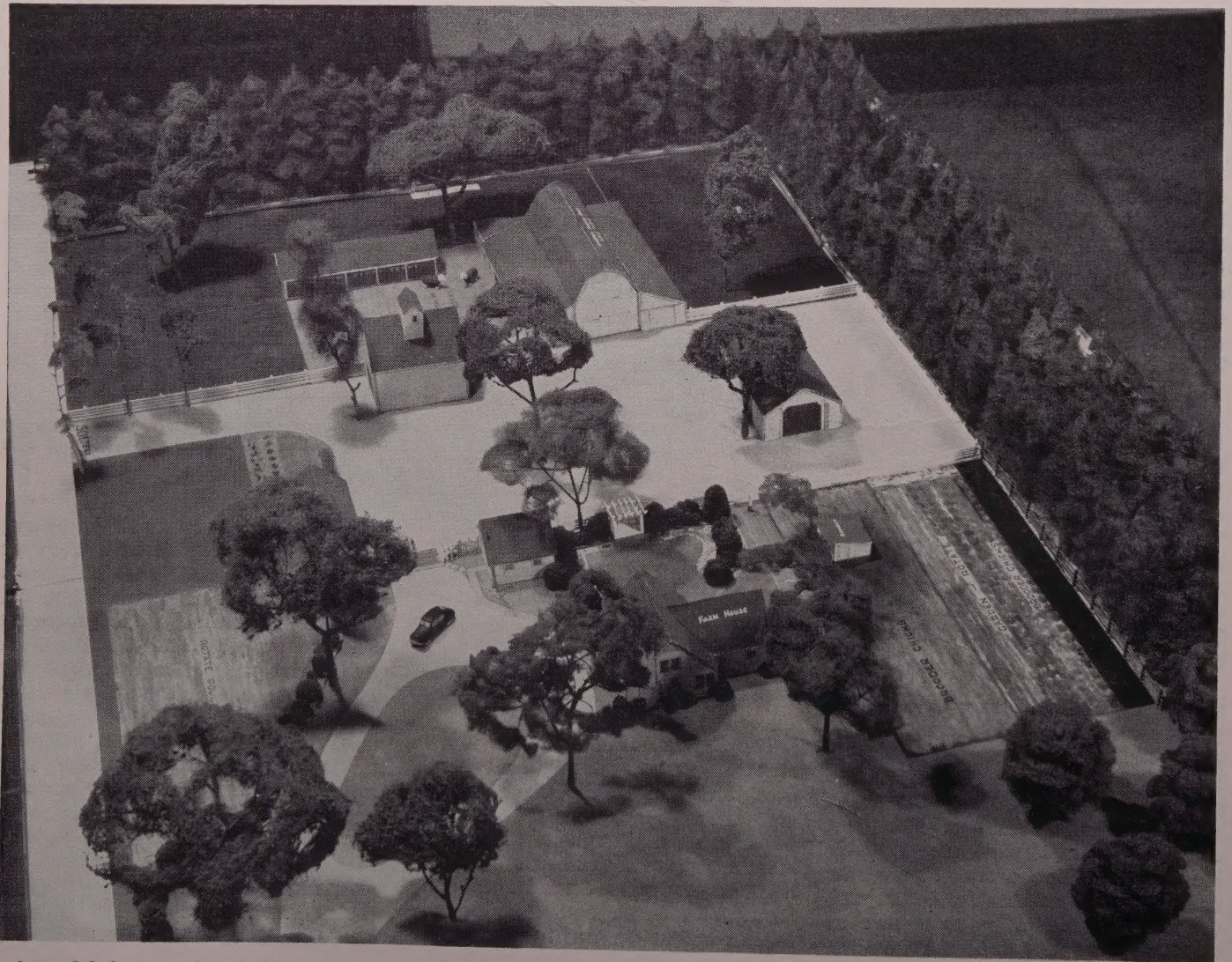
laid out in another day and age for a different method of operation, and have been changed and added to in such a way throughout the years that they are now far from being the pleasant, efficient place that one wants for his home and working quarters.

To say that one can solve the problem simply by "landscaping" may make the problem sound much simpler than it is. Landscaping the farmstead is a complicated procedure. Unlike the landscaping of urban homes, detail must be integrated for harmony and beauty, as well as arranged to give the maximum efficiency of operation. Also, due to the several diversified types of farming, and individual differences in each home site, it is seldom that two plans for

proper landscaping of a farmstead are alike.

Most farmers today are not in a position to build a complete new set of buildings and thus start with a "clean slate." Yet there are several general ways in which one can improve the efficiency of operation of the farmstead, and at the same time add those touches of beauty and harmony that in the long run will add so much more to the pleasures of farm life.

As regards the efficiency of operation, one should remember that two of the most important and desired features are: easy accessibility to all buildings and pens; and a good circulatory system—that is, a good system of lanes and side-walks. Often pens and barnyards are



A model farmstead, suitable for livestock farms in the middlewest, as constructed by H. W. Gilbert, assistant professor of landscape gardening extension. Note the way in which the open lawn and framing of trees and shrubbery focus attention upon the farmhouse, the center of the farmstead. A private garden is at the rear of the farmhouse. Livestock and chickens are fenced away from the yards and house, alleviating the necessity for gates and fences around the farmhouse and driveways.



located so that one must wade through a muddy feed-lot to get to the barn, or open four or five gates in the performance of a few chores. This is obviously time-and-energy-wasting. Usually, with a little thought, a plan can be worked out so that all barns are accessible from unfenced, open yards. Whenever possible, the best system is that of having the buildings grouped around an open court. Not only can this court be a time and energy saver in doing chores and many regular farm operations, but it is a decided improvement in appearance.

Keeping well-surfaced lanes and walks free from mud and obstructions and arranging them so that they accomplish their main purpose—that of providing the shortest and most convenient way between two points—is perhaps the most important item in promoting efficient operation. Try to arrange the front drive so that it leads naturally to the front door first, so that visitors won't be prompted to ask for admittance through the back entry.

A farmstead may be arranged in an efficient manner, but passersby may still be prone to say, "I couldn't enjoy living there." For attention, or the lack of it, to just a few principles of harmony and beauty can make a great difference in the desirability of appearance of a farmstead.

Harmony of style and unity of color of the several buildings can make a great improvement in appearance. Another principle that is well to keep in mind is that of penning the livestock away from the house and surrounding grounds—not penning the house and house yard away from the livestock. If all the stock, including chickens, are kept in their own pens, there will be no need for excessive fencing around the house yard, and a better idea of spaciousness may be created.

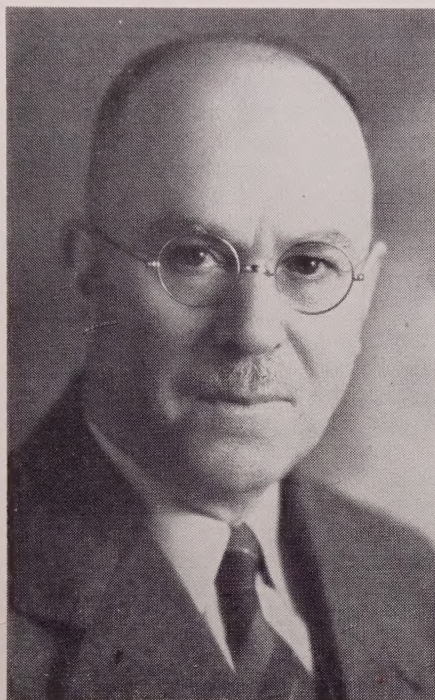
In planting trees and shrubbery one should remember that the home is the center of the farm. All attention should be focused on it by framing it with shade trees, and fronting it with an open lawn. The lawn should not be cluttered with showy patches of shrubbery and flowers, but they should be so spaced around the borders that the eye runs naturally along them until it reaches the home.

An item not often found in farmsteads is a private garden, or "outdoor living room." Although one may have pleasant grounds fronting on the public road, a spot with more privacy, for family relaxation and recreation is still desired by many. A private area, to the rear or side of the house, screened from the public view with shrubbery or trees will satisfy this need. This will make a handy playground for the children, and may provide a pleasant view for the homemaker, as she works around the kitchen.

## FRUITS, VEGETABLES, FLOWERS

By Rose Ellen Disbrow

Meals should be looked upon as the sharing of good food with relatives and friends in a pleasant atmosphere of sociability and good will—not as the monotonous task of filling an empty cavity three times a day. Grandma's favorite and over-used menu consisted of meat, potatoes, and gravy. The modern homemaker appreciates the value of these



**M. J. DORSEY**  
Head, Department of Horticulture

old-time staples, but she steps up the tempo of her family's meals by having fruits, vegetables, and flowers on the table every day.

If meals are to bring about the stimulating and cheering effect most homemakers strive to achieve, a centerpiece of gay, colorful flowers is one of the first things we would expect to find on the table. To prove his point that flowers in the home are a definite cultural asset in the rearing of children, M. J. Dorsey, head of the horticulture department, likes to relate this story. "Back in the days before the advent of the railroad and automobile when a pair of legs were the best means of travel available, a young fellow had sold some cattle out west. Since his route home consisted of many miles of wild and desolate country, he realized the danger of being robbed of his large amount of money which he was carrying on his person. He asked an elderly gentleman what he should do, and the old fellow's advice to him was to find a spot where wild flowers were growing abundantly, and here, he was assured,

### . . . Step Up the Menu Tempo

he could expect to be free from the menace of robbers while he slept." The idea Mr. Dorsey is trying to express with his story is that people with low characters are usually not associated with flowers, and usually do not come from a home where flowers were grown and enjoyed.

#### Floral Arrangements

Now, let us decide what is the most pleasing arrangement of flowers for the table. They should never be so large and droopy that diners will have the uneasy feeling that bugs or dirt will drop in their salad. Jim Camp, floriculture department, feels that a low triangular arrangement with both sides equal is the most pleasing type of centerpiece. If a non-symmetrical arrangement is employed, a few lucky people can enjoy the front or faces of the flowers, but the rest at the table will have only the stems and the unattractive portion of the bouquet to view. Because of its unstable appearance, an unsymmetrical flower centerpiece may contribute to that stiff, uneasy feeling so unwanted during meals. If the flowers being used are heavy or bulky, the tallest should not be more than eight to ten inches in height, but if they are light and airy, stems may be fifteen inches, with the most slender flowers at the peak.

When choosing flowers, it should first be decided whether a formal or informal floral centerpiece is desired, for some flowers definitely have a stately or regal air, while others are of the casual or informal variety. Roses may be thought of as a typical formal flower, whereas nasturtiums are associated with the informal luncheon. Snap dragons are a very versatile type flower and can be used for either formal or informal occasions. Calenduls are another variety which make an excellent breakfast centerpiece, chiefly because they have a "garden look." Astors and petunias are frequently used for luncheon table decorations. Gladioli, roses, and lilies are used when a formal atmosphere is desirable.

#### Fruits and Vegetables Improve the Diet

Fruits belong to the group of so-called "protective foods" — fruits, vegetables, milk, and eggs—around which our diets should be built. Many people still regard fruits as a luxury or relish, a mere extra in the diet, not as a staple article of food. For this reason, many families do not eat the amount of fruits they should. A great many varieties of fruits and vegetables are being transported to the food markets every day from all parts of the country. Almost all types of frozen fruits and vegetables can be purchased, so there is no reason why each family should not have its share.



# A Brave Ally Studies at Illinois

Hundreds of American service men and their families are indebted to Mrs. Maria Fe Atienza, citizen of the Philippine Islands, for her courageous work during the war years. In the Bataan Emergency hospital in 1942, she served as a volunteer dietician. She did volunteer social work for the Philippine Red Cross in helping prisoners of war in Capas in 1942 and 1943. Without consideration for her own safety, she worked as part of an underground group in helping Filipino and American prisoners of war at Capas and at Babanatuan, as well as the Port Area and in Bilibid prison, Manila.

Exhibiting admirable stamina and courage, Mrs. Atienza smuggled food, medicine, clothing, letters, news, and money into the concentration camps; many times at the risk of her life.

Several nationalities were represented in the underground group which consisted of four men and eight women. Aliases such as Morning Glory (a Catholic priest), Porkey, High Pockets, Mrs. A. (Mrs. Atienza), and Dr. A. (her husband) were employed by these people. Eight from this group were caught and killed by the Japanese. The liberation of Manila by the Americans saved "Mrs. A." and her husband a similar fate, as the Japs were very close to discovering their identity at that time. Two other survivors of this underground group are a Filipino orphan, alias "Looter," and a Spanish widow, alias "Screwball No. Three." The Spanish woman's husband was also a member of the group and met death at the hands of the Japanese.

## Smuggled Messages

When asked how they managed to get messages and supplies into the concentration camps, Mrs. Atienza replied, "I can tell you a few of the methods we used, but you could never imagine the ordeals, details, risks, and mental anguish involved in our work."

Dr. and Mrs. Atienza managed to smuggle mail and messages to the internees of the concentration camps when they delivered Red Cross supplies to the camp. These messages were sometimes delivered by bribed guards or given directly to the prisoners, but often times messages were cleverly hidden in boxes of corn meal and rice cakes and smuggled to the prisoners in this manner.

To get letters and messages out of the camp, the prisoners either threw the message over the fence when the guards weren't looking or sent them to Mrs. Atienza via bribed guards. One of the Japanese doctors finally submitted to bribes to carry medicines, food, mail, etc., into the camps in his ambulance. Besides the bribed Japanese doctor and

By Esther Siemen

guards, Mrs. Atienza said they had to have other reliable contacts among the prisoners of war who would evenly distribute the articles among the other prisoners. Most of these prisoners were American officers.

## War Crimes Witnesses

Dr. and Mrs. Atienza were prosecution witnesses in the war crimes trials of Generals Homma and Yamashita. They used the letters they received from the American and Filipino prisoners as evidence of the atrocities of the Japanese. Mrs. Atienza has with her some of the battered and partially charred original letters from the prisoners besides numerous copies of those originals which are now on file in Washington.

In one of the letters which Mrs. Atienza has from an American soldier, he tells of the inhuman conditions in the Park Avenue School camp, near Nichols Field, where American prisoners of war were put to work to enlarge the airfield. He says in part: "This is known to be the worst prison outside of Fort Santiago in the Philippine Islands. The Americans at Cabanatuan and at Bilibid call it 'Devil's Island.' The Nips at those places call us the 'Iron Men.' . . .

The captain in the field is called 'wolf.' . . . He is a sadist. The 'wolf' has beat two men to death with a blackjack so far. I have been here since last September 3, 1942, and I'm getting used to all this routine and am beginning to take it in stride. . . . Most of the men are suffering from pellagra and beri-beri, but we have to work just the same. When the men get too bad, they send them to Bilibid to the hospital. That is paradise and there all of us want to go, but few get there. You almost have to be dead to get there. . . . There are at least seven or eight a day who pass out from the heat or over-exertion. . . . There's at least three or four beatings a day here. . . . All the sentries, except a few, are scared to death of the 'wolf' and try to imitate him. But we just take it and wait for that day when we can be in charge of them. If you can, will you send some omelet and peanuts. They contain many vitamins and I need vitamins for my pellagra. We have one kind of medicine here and that's purple paint. I'd really appreciate a book if you could find one. Good luck, Johnson."

That American boy never lived to experience "that day when we can be in charge of them."

## Bombed Out

During the bombing and burning of Manila, Dr. and Mrs. Atienza fled from their home with just the clothes they were wearing. All their possessions were destroyed. Now, Mrs. Atienza has with her here in the United States some examples of the beautiful and different textiles artistry of the Filipinos. Among other things, she has a hand embroidered dressing gown, afternoon dress made of pineapple fiber, and a silk pongee formal dress trimmed in material of pineapple fiber.

Mrs. Maria Fe Atienza, a citizen of the Philippine Islands, is now doing graduate work in home economics at the University of Illinois. She is a graduate of the Philippine National Teachers College with a bachelor of science in education and is also a graduate of the Philippine Normal School majoring in home economics. Mrs. Atienza served for a number of years in the city schools of Manila and as a division supervisor of home economics in Tarlac. She was also general office supervisor in the bureau of education.

Dr. and Mrs. Atienza are doing further study in the United States and they plan to go back to help build up their country from the devastating effects of the war. They have done a great service to their country and to America. It is a debt which America should never forget, although it will never be able to repay it in full.



MRS. MARIA FE ATIENZA





The girls at Davenport House begin to serve a fireside buffet-supper, typical event during their stay at the house

*Let's Look at . . .*

## Home Management

By Mary Argenbright

Home management is a comprehensive area which seeks to relate many aspects of home economics. The study attempts to develop an appreciation of homemaking and create an understanding of the management problems involved.

The University of Illinois offers at present an area of concentration in home management which may lead toward a major in this field. Miss Lita Bane, head of the department of home economics, is the chairman of the home management division. Elective courses are offered for the home economics majors and also for students in other departments of the University.

Two of the beginning courses in this area seek to develop a philosophy of homemaking and to present information and techniques of management. Home economics 10 is the beginning course for home economics majors and home economics 80 is a similar course for non-majors. Advanced courses in home management are offered in which students choose a management problem relating to their own interests. These problems usually involve studies of time, money, or energy management. A graduate seminar is also included in this area of study. Throughout all the home management courses considerable emphasis is given to economics as it is related to the problems of the home.

Home economics 14 might be called

a study in cooperative living in addition to being an application of experience in which the various phases of home economics training are coordinated. In this intensive four weeks course the students live in the home management house and actually participate in solving the management problems which arise. The students plan their own division of activities and carry them to completion. They rotate the activities so that each student may gain some understanding of every phase of home management. Approximately 24 hours per week are required for the work and activities of this three-hour credit course. Group conferences are held twice during each week and informal discussions are held as problems arise. The girls judge their own products and are graded in part on their ability to recognize and evaluate standards.

The purpose of the course is to teach students techniques of management in some phases of homemaking through participation. However, no attempt is made to incorporate all management problems which might arise in the home, but rather to meet problems which arise in a situation of six adults living together. Nor is an attempt made to deal with family relation problems, but emphasis is given to relationship problems which are common to all group living.

A great deal of time and study is devoted to the problem of food manage-

ment, because feeding the family requires so much of a homemaker's time and involves a considerable expenditure of energy and money. The food management study incorporates all planning, from menu making and marketing, to preparation and serving. The students develop poise by their participation in group projects in entertaining.

Some study is made of house care and laundry problems with emphasis on the proper use and care of equipment. There is also experience in time management, for the girls living in the house work out time schedules for study, house activities, personal care, rest, and recreation. Approximately 40 per cent of the student's time is spent in food management, 35 per cent in class study and conference, 12 per cent in care of house and laundering, 6 per cent in group recreation, and 7 per cent in all other house activities.

Although the course is required for all home economics education majors, it has proved to be of value to all interested in applied home economics and is often elected by juniors and seniors in other home economics curricula.

The home management course is under the direction of Miss Margaret Goodyear, associate in home economics. Miss Angelene Helleberg, instructor in home economics, lives at the home management house and assists with the laboratory work in the course.

Extension work is also done in home management and includes a home accounts project under the direction of Mrs. Ruth Freeman, associate in home economics. Miss Gladys Ward, assistant professor of home management extension, has charge of the home management program throughout the state.

The five girls who lived in the house the first four weeks of the fall semester were Joan Berry, Chicago; Wanda Sward, Galesburg; Ruby Willey, Varna; Ruth Jaques, Laura; and Janice Armitage, Morrisonville. Each student elected the course. Ruby Willey, general home economics major, commented, "I have gone through school with very little time for an application of my home economics training. I have the chance to get it here. We also have the opportunity to see and hear the ideas of others."

The University of Illinois was a pioneer in the establishment of the first experimental house in this country in 1909. Under the able leadership of Isabel Bevier, who was at that time the head of the home economics department, courses which involved the evaluation of wall finishes, lighting, and other physical aspects of management, were taught in this house. From 1914 until 1941 the applied home management course was taught in an apartment in Bevier hall. Miss Bevier said of the apartment when opened, "The place is not designed as a show place . . . but rather a place

(Continued on Page 18)



# Dean Blair's Portrait Unveiled

By Jean Neese '49

The portrait of Dean Emeritus Joseph C. Blair was unveiled and presented to the University of Illinois during a ceremony in his honor Thursday evening, October 31, 1946.

The program that proceeded the unveiling ceremony was presided over by W. L. Burlison, professor of crop production, and head of the department of agronomy. Bruce Foote, professor in music, sang "Trees," accompanied at the piano by Sherman Schoonmaker, professor in music. The painter of the portrait, Charles E. Bradbury, professor of art, gave a short talk on the portrait, and Lita Bane, head of the home economics department, expressed her thanks to Dean Blair for his deep interest in the home economics department.

In commending the Dean's work in the University of Illinois college of agriculture for the past 50 years, Miles W. Bryant Princeton, representing the horticulture profession, stated that Dean Blair has contributed to the expansion of the horticulture division of the college and has made it what it is today.

George W. Goble, professor of law, described the Dean as a man who has contributed to the good living of others by his advice to young people, by being a good citizen in the community, and by effectively living his profession. Mr. Goble praised him for his pioneering work in horticulture education in the United States, for his aid in establishing Wesley Foundation, and for his leadership in the church and YMCA.

J. C. Spitler, professor of agriculture extension, presented the portrait of Dean Blair to Rexford Nexcomb, dean of the college of fine and applied arts, who received the portrait for the University in the absence of George D. Stoddard, president. This portrait will hang in Mumford hall with the portraits of the other previous deans of the agriculture college.

Dean Blair in acknowledging the honor stated that he hoped the expansion of the past 50 years together with the opportunities of men and women today will make this a better world in which to live. He expressed appreciation that he was born and raised on a farm where work and cooperation are essential to life.

At the close of the program, the portrait was unveiled by Mrs. C. S. Bernard, daughter of Dean and Mrs. Blair.

W. L. Burlison, professor of crop production and head of the department of agronomy, Louis Mosgrove, senior stu-

nographer in horticulture, H. H. Alp, former associate professor of poultry extension, A. S. Colby, professor of pomology, G. L. Jordon, professor of agriculture economics, and J. C. Spitler, professor of agriculture extension, and associate director of extension, were on the portrait presentation executive committee.

## Shorthorn Breeder Speaks

By Ken Elliot '49

On Thursday evening, November 7, Leslie Mathers, a prominent Shorthorn breeder from Mason City, Illinois, gave a talk on his recent travels in the British Isles to purchase foundation stock. He went over on the Queen Mary and enjoyed typical G.I. accommodations with which a good many of the Hoof and Horn members are familiar. Being a prominent Shorthorn breeder, he is well acquainted in the Isles and spent most of his time visiting the outstanding Shorthorn herds. The highlight of his stay was the Perth show and sale in Scotland. He purchased several animals for his herd as well as several for other herds in Illinois. He mentioned that the auctioneering was carried out in much the same manner that it is here, but a great deal faster. The Grand Champion bull of the show was sold in 90 seconds.

The skill of the Scottish herdsmen was one of the things that impressed Mr. Mathers the most. These men have been in the business since boyhood and are following in the footsteps of several generations.

The transportation of the cattle to this country is quite an ordeal, as they have to be quarantined in the Isles before being loaded on a ship and again in Canada before they can be brought into the States.

He also spoke of the British and Scottish as being much more conservative in their farming practices than farmers in the United States. Only 20 per cent of the soil is being tilled and it has been kept at a high rate of productivity for hundreds of years by skillful use of fertilizers.

## OUR COVER

Bevier Hall in the snow. Home of the department of home economics, the building was renamed this fall in honor of the first dean of the department, Isabelle Bevier.

## Radio Schools for Extension Workers

The farm advisers, home advisers, and their assistants throughout the state have been requesting a training school in radio. Just recently their request was granted. They were given the opportunity of attending one-day radio schools, which were held October 16 through 25. The schools were conducted by Joe Tonkin, USDA radio specialist, with the assistance of Miss Jesse Heathman and Bob Beeler, assistant extension editors.

Radio is one of the tools of the extension worker. By using radio, extension workers are able to reach and help more people.

Forty-eight counties now have radio stations on which the extension workers appear. The school was concerned with the actual presentation of the material, as well as the preparation of information or scripts which the station can use without requiring the presence of the extension worker. Wire recorders were taken to the schools in order that people attending could make short recordings, and then discuss and criticize their talks.

In addition to extension workers, farm directors and program managers of radio stations were invited to attend the schools to meet the extension workers and to tell them what material was best suited to their station's use.

The total attendance at these schools was 151, including faculty and staff of college of agriculture, extension workers, and assistants, farm directors, and program managers of the stations. A school was first held for the faculty and staff of the college of agriculture in Mumford hall. This was followed by schools in Centralia, Champaign, Quincy, Joliet, and again in Champaign.

## RURAL LIFE CLUB

The University of Illinois Rural Life Club was efficiently represented at the national meeting of the Rural Youth of America by Doris Baity, first vice-president of the local club; Meta Marie Keller, second vice-president; Frank Mealiff, treasurer; and Ed Lachelt. The other officers of the local club are: Charles Botterbusch, president; and Lila Jean Athey, secretary.

The Rural Life Club, which is comprised of students from rural communities, was organized on this campus about 1939.

There are five active committees, namely: membership, relationship, program, publicity, and projects. Every member serves one of the above mentioned committees. From those indicating their desire to serve on a specific committee, officers excluded, is selected a chairman.

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## Harrison Speaks to Home Ec Club

The Isabel Bevier Home Economics club celebrated Miss Bevier's birthday with a meeting on November 14. Miss Bevier was the first dean of the home economics department at the University of Illinois, and the club has taken the name in her honor. Before her death a few years ago, she spent her retired days in this community among her friends.

The last meeting of the club was in the auditorium of Gregory hall. The speaker for the occasion was Miss Florence Harrison, chairman of the home economics department, University of Missouri. Miss Harrison is a graduate of the University of Illinois where she studied home economics under Miss Bevier. She taught here before going to the State College of Washington at Pullman, Washington, as dean of the home economics department. She received her master's degree at Columbia University, New York City, before taking her present position.

The business meeting consisted of reports from each of the officers and committee chairmen. Special music consisted of two piano selections by Miss Janice Clark, a sophomore in the school of music.

In the afternoon before the meeting there was a reception for Miss Harrison at the University Women's club where she met with friends.

The next meeting will be held jointly with the Agriculture club. The main event of the evening will be a panel discussion by members of each of the clubs.

## ALUMNI NEWS

Glenn Buggard has remained on the campus this year and is now employed by the U. of I. agronomy department.

Also working in the agronomy department is Warren Kenyon.

Many of the alumni have sought work in other states. Everett Elwood is at Michigan State college employed as an extension specialist in farm management. Ralph Howard is a fieldman for Dairy Product Procurement, E. I. Widemire, at Sylacauga, Alabama.

Krinsky Seymour is employed by the Bruder Dairy Products company at Cleveland, Ohio.

Ernest Huffington has a position with Thompson Hybrids at Belmond, Iowa.

Two of the alumni have been appointed youth assistants in their respective counties; Glenn Coffey in Effingham and Fayette counties and Paul Pittman in Coles county.

The following have become vocational agriculture teachers: Manning Kessinger at Tolono, Illinois; John Perring at Cullen, Illinois; Russell Weger at Benton, Illinois.

Robert Hance is with the Farm Security Administration at Watseka, Illinois. Maurice Schellhardt has become assistant field superintendent for the Milford Canning company.

Dale Sinclair is operating an implement business in partnership with his father at Martinsville, Illinois.

## AGRICULTURAL BUILDING PROGRAM

Students of the agricultural department can look forward to a new, modern laboratory. The agricultural department of the University of Illinois has received an appropriation for a new building which would house laboratories for animal nutrition, dairy chemistry, and bacteriology.

Already designed, this building, which would be conveniently located east of Mumford Hall facing Gregory Drive, has yet to reach the construction stage owing to the shortage of materials and contractors.

The last buildings of any particular size and importance built for the Agriculture Department were constructed in the early 1920's. These included the new Agriculture Building, or Mumford Hall, the Dairy Manufacturers' Building, and the Horticulture Field Laboratory.

Well-equipped, modern laboratories for your scientific investigation are the agriculture department's dream, and in blueprint form is a meat laboratory. The agricultural engineering department, which has been using the mill type temporary building, also needs a new laboratory building.

For the last two or three bienniums, a new home economics building has been at the top of the list of those under consideration, but was denied appropriations by reason of the state legislature's statement that all new buildings on campus had to be directly concerned with veterans. The Woman's Building is now being used for home economic laboratories.

There is no lack of problems for students to solve in laboratories. Everything that is discovered points to a new kind of teaching.

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**"AS THE TWIG IS BENT - - - -"**

**A**S applied to American farming, there's more than a fragment of truth in the old saying, "As the twig is bent, the tree inclines".

We in America, with traditions deep-rooted in our hearts, have chosen to be guided by those traditions rather than to be bound by them. We cling to the old as long as its value is proved, yet quickly cast aside the traditional way when a better method proves its basic worth. The swing to power farming, the ever broadening use of the combine, the increasing trend to conservation farming—each may be considered, each *was* considered in its time, a break with tradition. Yet as intrepid pioneers established and proved new methods—new, easier, faster, more convenient ways of doing the farming job—the American farmer has been quick to adapt them to his own use.

The great, sturdy tree of American agriculture is deep-rooted in the rich soil of our country, yet it is a living, changing, vital tree, adapting its development as the twig is bent.

**J O H N   D E E R E**  **M O L I N E , I L L I N O I S**



# WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE AG SCHOOL?

A strong, positive step forward was taken at the November meeting of the Ag club. During an animated discussion period, students candidly pointed out shortcomings which are to be found in our college of agriculture, and presented measures which they believe would do much toward correcting these faults. Many pertinent questions were placed directly before Dean Hudelson and Acting Dean Carroll, who were in attendance at the meeting.

The discussion, capably led by Kent Ryan, centered about five main issues; to wit, registration, curricula, instruction, advisory system, and placement service.

## Registration

All of those who voiced opinions on this phase of the discussion agreed that our present system is much less than adequate. In some cases students are caused to lose credit and may find it necessary to spend an additional semester in school in order to take required courses, which have not been properly planned to accommodate the numbers who wish to take the courses. Since pre-registration, which many believe would correct this fault, is not apparently in the immediate offing, all agriculture students are urged to fill out course cards and turn them in to the college of agriculture office in order that plans may be made to meet the requirements for next semester insofar as possible.

## Curricula

Student opinion generally was unanimous in disapproval of the limited curricula which is presented by the college of agriculture. It was pointed out that

By K. Robert Kern

many other agricultural schools in the country present curricula which give degrees in as high as 24 fields while our college gives only six. Many believe that our system which spends two years building a broad base in agriculture does not allow enough time for choice of major and proper specialized training. It was proposed that the curricula committee be enlarged to make a place for students on the planning board, with the hope that better understanding of students' needs might be promoted. The idea was broached that a course be designed to assist the student in selecting a major, in which a student could learn just what types of work each field involves. Some students believe that our curricula should be more elastic so a course of study could include more vital courses in place of those which are not particularly pertinent.

## Instruction

Cases were cited where courses were poorly organized and not properly presented so students could get the maximum from the course. The suggestion was made that courses make more use of the excellent experimental farms operated by the college. The use of visual aids was touched upon, but opinion was divided as to the value of this type of instruction.

## Advisory System

It was generally agreed that the value of advisers is almost wholly in the hands of the student and not much can be done to remedy shortcomings in this line. It was suggested that the college

require two conferences each semester with the idea of stimulating student usage of counseling which is available.

## Placement Service

Students raised the question, "What does the college do to assist the students in finding jobs?" In reply, Dean Hudelson stated that the system employed by the college has deteriorated during the war years but is being rebuilt. Placement is done largely through contacts of faculty and department heads rather than by one central employment bureau. He said further that the ultimate job placement is based upon the person's ability to get a job and hold it, and that the college cannot guarantee to find a place for every student.

A record of the discussion was made and will be presented to Acting Dean Carroll with the hope that something can be done to correct some of these existing faults.

We believe that this meeting was a good thing whether or not concrete improvements grow out of it. It definitely shows that the students take an active interest in the way our college is operated.

The good work has just begun. Now we should keep our interest strong and follow through so that what has been begun will be effective. The college of agriculture is our concern and should continue to be of vital interest now that we are in school as well as after we have gone out into the business world.

We would like to go on record with a "thanks" to Hugh Wetzel, Kent Ryan, and the Ag club for taking this step to chart the course.

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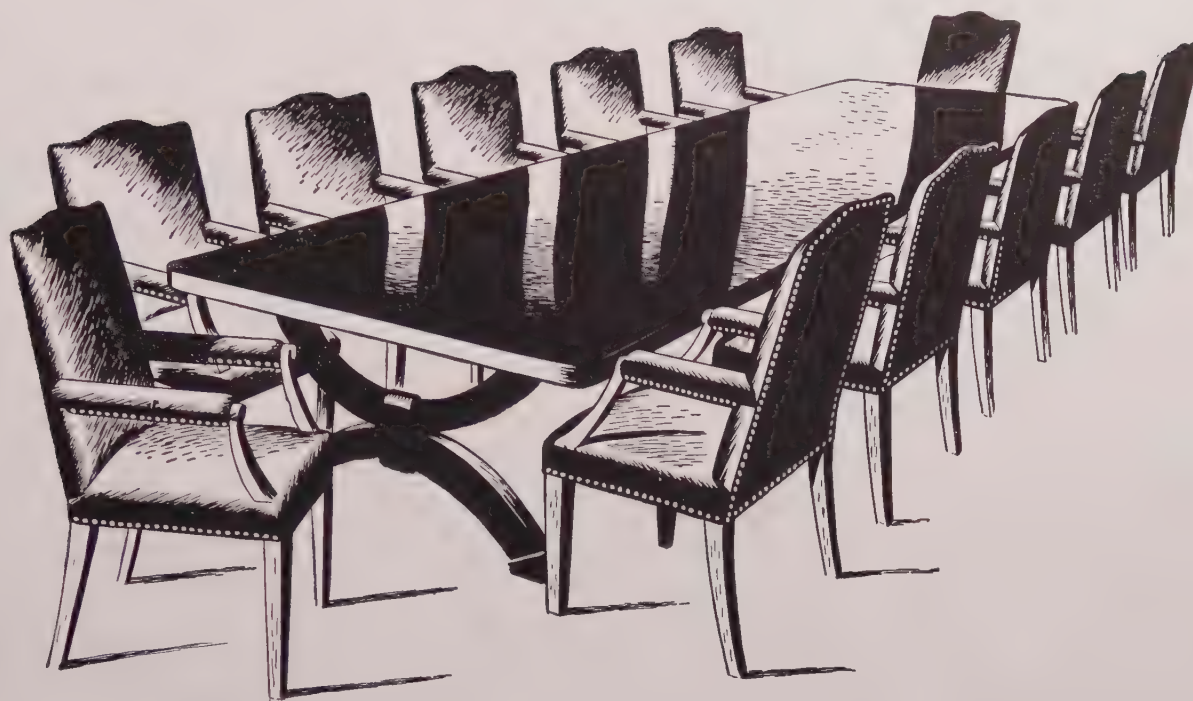
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**ITALIAN AGRICULTURE . . .**

(Continued from Page 5)

so little water is available. Weed and disease control is excellent due mainly to the fact that the Italian farmer realizes the importance of good yields.

Harvesting of crops is probably done in the most primitive fashion of any of the other farming procedures. The grains are cut with a hand sickle, usually by women, and are hand tied into bundles. In a few cases binders and mowers are used, but this is frowned upon because their use cuts down the need for manpower.

The principal crops of Italian agri-

culture are wheat, which occupies 50 per cent of the tillable area, and corn which occupies a much smaller area. Other crops grown in rather scattered areas throughout the country are tobacco, sugar beets, flax, hemp, and vegetable crops grown both for market and home consumption. In Southern Italy and Sicily, cotton and citrus fruits are grown rather extensively.

The yield of these crops is remark-

planted to the more valuable crops. Yields of 50 to 60 bushels of wheat per acre have been reported. This was with the sparing use of fertilizer. With the high producing soils of the United States, 50 to 60 bushel yields are outstanding and in many rich farming areas 30 to 40 bushel yields are good.

With so many of Italy's people undernourished because of the food shortage caused largely by the destruction and

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R. R. Snapp showing a Chianana bull, typical of the type of cattle in Italy.  
Photo taken near Florence.

ably high considering the mediocre type of soil and the present shortage of fertilizer. Commercial fertilizers which were used almost universally before the war are now very scarce, but such care is taken to conserve all animal excrement that many farmers have large amounts of manure to enrich the fields

chaos of war, farming is of no minor importance in that country. The Italian farmer is to be highly commended for his achievement in serving his hungry neighbor with such meager facilities and resources. Certainly, the American farmer should gather some incentive from such an accomplishment.

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**DEAN RUSK PORTRAIT . . . HOME MANAGEMENT . . .**

(Continued from Page 5)

in teaching, extension, or research in any phase of animal production, marketing, or processing.

Each year this organization selects an honor member and at the annual meeting the portrait of this member is presented to the Saddle and Sirloin club. This year this special honor was conferred upon our own Dean Rusk.

Dean Rusk has been active in all phases of agriculture. He graduated from the University of Missouri and since joining the University of Illinois staff in 1910, he has served as head of the beef cattle department, head of the animal husbandry department and now is serving as dean of the college.

(Continued from Page 9)

where, in the limitations of a modern apartment, students can find and exemplify to their ability, the problems connected with the cost of food and care of house."

In 1941 the former home of Dean Davenport, the first dean of the college of agriculture, became the home economics house.

During the 32 years since the establishment of the experimental house for home management instruction and application, many students have been given the opportunity for self-evaluation and a chance to see relationships in a situation so that they might better learn to solve management problems.

**Phi Upsilon Omicron**

Initiation of new members of Phi Upsilon Omicron was held Sunday afternoon, November 10, at Bevier Hall. After the ceremony a luncheon was served in honor of the new members. These initiates were selected from those attending the rushing tea earlier in the fall and include: Jean Archer, Jane Ashby, Mary Firszt, Barbara Hackett, Mary Lou Newburn, Harriet Nifong, Ruby Olson, Muriel Smith, Virginia Swain, Wanda Sward, Helen Wolcott, Patricia Wallace, and Evelyn Zobel.

There were five million fewer hogs in the world on January 1 of this year than the same time a year ago.

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THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD  
and NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE

## Some thoughts on Food Production...and Safety



**1** "In Napoleon's time, it took nineteen farm workers to supply food for one person off the farm. Today, one farm worker provides food for four hungry people elsewhere.

"Early in the last century, it required sixty-four hours of work to produce an acre of wheat. Now it can be done in less than two and one-half hours.

"This means that the record crops produced in World War II were grown and harvested by 26 million fewer persons than would have been required if early 1800 methods were still in use."

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**2** "When the Pennsylvania Railroad was founded in 1846, it took three-quarters of the total population to produce food and fiber to feed and clothe themselves and the other one-quarter living in towns and cities.

"Today 25 per cent do that job—and do it better!"

—THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

**T**HE items at the left, Nos. 1 and 2, from statements published recently, bring a feeling of pride to International Harvester. They remind us of this Company's part in the great record of American agriculture.

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Item No. 3, at the right, is different. It carries a message of warning for every farmer... In the coming year International Harvester will do its utmost to provide all farmers with the machines they need. These machines carry many safeguards for safety. Nevertheless, when you use this equipment: Take Time to be Careful. Yours for better living on the family farm.

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**3** Safety on the Farm: "Farming is today one of the most hazardous of all occupations," warned Dr. H. H. Young and Dr. Ralph K. Ghormley of the Mayo Clinic. Making a nine-year study of farm accidents treated at the clinic, they found these included at least 65 serious cases each year. (Note: Of the 17,500 occupational accident deaths in the United States in 1944, 4,300, or 25 per cent, involved farmers.)

"In this series, falls led all other causes of accidents—most commonly falls from some piece of farm equipment—and they caused a mortality rate of 5 per cent. Second place, with 186 victims, were accidents from farm machinery. The third, with 104 cases, were accidents caused by livestock. Although the bull is generally supposed to be most dangerous, horses accounted for most of the injuries.

"The first step in prevention is education in safety methods," the Mayo doctors said. "The operation of farm equipment demands as much understanding and respect as the running of a moving locomotive."

—NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE,  
July 15, 1946

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